

STAKEHOLDER MEETING NOTES 5/17/2016

Location: Frances Anderson Center**Project: Edmonds Civic Field Master Plan****Project #: P3282**

10am: Boys and Girls Club**Attendees: Bill Tsoukalas (Director of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Snohomish County)**

* Brandie Lovelace	* Renee McRae
* Bob Wilcox	* Carrie Hite
* Diana Clay	* Chris Jones
* Jim Marino	* Ann Marie Schneider

- Interest is to remain on the property
- Options? Current lease to 2021
- Previous conversations seeking perpetuity with Mayor and Council
- Have been on property since '62, want to stay in downtown Edmonds and remodel / expand
- 18 - 25,000 sf typical foot print for Boys and Girls Clubs Vision to build new community center, but perceived as conflict with new Senior Center / Community Center on near waterfront
- Would like better facility (i.e. build / rebuild) and portion of property allocated to use
- Current capacity 150 kids, existing building is at capacity
- No formal long-range plan at this time. No capital campaign at this time.
- May be possible to initiate planning process in parallel to Civic Field planning
- [Carrie] Should get through first phase of public meetings and determine whether the B&G Club will remain and have a footprint, then adjust plan from there
- Geese feces is an issue
- Kingston Community Center and Alderwood; Snohomish are good precedents
- New facility could serve as Boys and Girls Club, and community center or shared space

Priority Program

- Kids play structure close to the building
- Black top area with fence - e.g. basketball court - small kid's use (chalk, 4- square, etc).
- Track and field used often (center is mucky clay)
- Grassy area highly sought after
- Baseball field is rarely used
- Parking is difficult particularly on 6th Avenue during the Farmer's Market
- Boys and Girls Club has 2 vans that need parking

10:30 am: Mayor Earling

- Prefer a people friendly, passive landscape without a lot of athletic fields
- Precedent: Boston Commons – lots of open space
- Activity areas probably should stay activity areas in support of Boys & Girls Club for at least some portion. B&G club should remain on site if possible.
- New Senior Center / Community Center on waterfront has some challenges
- Wants the Boys & Girls Club in current location
- Community generally supportive of Taste of Edmonds, not really another location for it
- Small town atmosphere is a draw
- Would like more events for the evolving demographics
- No adjacent / concurrent projects currently in planning
- Believe we should remove the track, but leave some kind of walking path around the park
- Emergency services (Police & Fire) likely need to remain due to downtown proximity
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11:00 am: Holy Rosary

Attendees: Cheri Orsi, Holy Rosary School Office Manager

- PE Teachers, Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) use Civic Field
- Extended care director has been using Edmonds Elementary for outdoor program, not sure why not using civic field
- Track used for practice right now (400m competitive). Primary and elementary meets in different locations, (Everett, St. Mary Magdeleine and somewhere north)
- Only large area of church property is in front, which has water issues due to Shell Creek
- CYO soccer, 3rd -8th grade, 10 teams (max) average 6 teams practice 1-2 times per week after school
- Softball throw, javelin, (current field events)
- Would like a long jump pit
- Get rid of geese
- Would like better track surface (injuries and all weather; would like 8 lanes (currently 7 lanes); and improved conditions in center of track
- Restroom facilities needed
- Upgrade bleachers – more inviting and safe
- Keep or update play structure
- Not currently used for park for church festivals
- Not currently used for after-dark activities
- Cheri lives adjacent to play area (front yard)
- Hate to give up park space for parking – central location allows people to walk
- More thoughtful access, entry / exit points

11:30 am: City Council, Dave Teitzel

- Design should be for community, with Taste of Edmonds needs as secondary
- Softer edges with active elements more central
- Residents enjoy watching soccer games from decks – don't block views
- Walking path, meandering, perimeter
- Mixed view of Taste
- More events ok, but not large/noisy
- Group discussion about criterion/threshold for new events
- Saturday Market could be relocated to park
- Water feature would be nice
- Rarely see people running on bleacher stairs
- Bleachers / grandstand should probably be removed
- Consider changing the name of park [Carrie] We have a naming process and plan to undergo renaming after master plan is complete
- If the fence stays, needs to be more attractive
- Boys & Girls Club building is charming
- Adjunct museum possible for police and fire
- Off-leash area? Edmonds not dog friendly
- Skate park well used – some noise issues

11:50 am: City Council, Diane Buckshnis

- Charlotte, NC precedent, near stadium, open space
- Only issue is parking
- Prefer family and sports oriented, trails to walk, there are a huge number of passive parks already
- Geese are a problem
- Grandstands should go. Tenants will need to find other storage
- Sports tourism – half marathon? Fast-pitch? We don't have hotels downtown. Does city want this?
- Art pieces should be considered
- Small pavilion possible
- Put skate park in a corner
- Support kids – keeping them healthy
- Community gardens can be beneficial
- Look at surrounding parks and don't duplicate (music already at Hazel Miller and City Park)

1:00pm: Planning Board

Attendees: Phil Lovell (Chair)

Dan Robles (Board Member)

- Relationship to city is “awkward”
- Five stations and municipal buildings
- Don’t care what happens in the park. City will have “hands full” ameliorating a park in the middle of the city
- Needs to be screened with trees, etc. from residents North & East, not just gardens
- No strong feelings about park program
- Should be a draw
- [Dan] Likes events at the park
- Adjacent municipal services keep park safe, paramedics close by
- Park should augment adjacent amenities
- Tie into downtown core, arts center, Holy Rosary, etc.
- Parking is a big issue city-wide. No formal study being done.
 - No Parking on site. Or site could be all parking, or parking underground
 - Parking also needs shuttle
- Bikes – (Phil) not enough riders, no interest in more bike infrastructure – (Dan)“electrification” of bikes and cars should be considered
- Tech sector needs should be considered – engineers and architects (in response to current restrictions on types of businesses allowed downtown)
- Create space in the park for cell phone conversations or business use
- Saturday Market is good event for city, could spill into park or move to park
- Full-size soccer field is an issue (should not be in downtown park). It should be dealt with by the school district; not a universal enough appeal
- Priority should be downtown, public use, walking, consuming, kite flying
- Will there be inter-local agreements? for sport field relocation?

1:30pm: Edmonds Art Festival Foundation

Attendees: Terry Vehrs (President)

Ann Wood (Board Member)

Susan Loreen (Board Member)

- 50% of grandstand storage is park use – Edmonds Christmas decorations
- Horticulture Program at Edmonds Community College are possible partners
- Peter Kirk Park has great lighting – Lighting brings people and should be considered
- Possible temporary art installations
- Can Boys & Girls Club be incorporated into Senior Center?
- What do we need to provide, as it relates to Boys & Girls Club and rec. facility?
- Chateau St. Michelle wine event, entertainment, arts festival; all possible uses for repurposed facility. Alcohol can be allowed with special permit
- Bellevue Downtown Park is nice - ice skating, etc.
- What do you do for teens and other segments?
- What about parking?
- Bicycle racks – (see Bend, OR.)
- Currently engage teens in the arts through scholarships, grants and student/youth section at Arts Festival
- Possible to use current art program for art on fences during construction
- How do we plan for homeless use? [Carrie] Government just ruled that people can sleep in the parks. Edmonds is reviewing the implications of this for the city
- Edmonds has 1% for Art program
- Interested in discussing permanent art or art pieces

2:00pm: Planning Board

Attendees: Carreen Rubenkönig (Vice Chair)

- Walking element to continue
- Grandstands not necessarily needed
- Strong supporter of skate park
- See park as active more than passive
- Wish more people would come watch, more spectators currently encouraged, no seating
- No issues with current activity. Love Boys & Girls Club
- No dog park
- More events at one time; safety in numbers; for evening events, busier is better
- There should be a fence to keep kids from wandering
- No ADA parking currently, minimally should have 1-2 spaces
- There are currently no buses on 6th or 7th
- Drop-offs should be on both 6th and 7th
- Permanent restroom facilities needed
- Sees as “open” primarily for sports fields
- Semi-pro football team practices there in dirt area, they are looking for other sites to play
- Interested in football being played there

2:30pm: Economic Development Commission

Attendees: Patrick Doherty (Community Services and Economic Development Director)

Mike Schindler – (Former Chair – Commissioner at present), Darrel Haug

- Park should become downtown signature park – seen as extension of downtown center (Similar to downtown Bellevue Park)
- Downtown movie night events
- Would probably change the name
- How do you passively program the park? Fountain, square, would love to see an attraction
- Would like walking paths and fields too; multi-use area
- Spontaneous activity should be encouraged – movable tables and chairs, life-size chess, etc.
- Possibly a p-patch or demonstration garden
- Kid attractions - fountain, lights, music, toy boat pond
- Environmental education, stormwater gardens
- Outdoor stage
- Tension with downtown business and events / festivals some benefit, some don't
- Connectivity not just wayfinding – park should programmatically feel like an extension of downtown. Genteel and sophisticated enough for after-dinner strolling
- Parking tough, make sports program less appealing
- Concession area, café and hardscape would be nice. May take time to get tenant
- Glass roof pavilion – Directions Park – is great, nice to have some rain come.

3:00pm: City Staff

Attendees: Phil Williams, Public Works Director

Kernen Lien, Senior Planner

Mike DeLilla, Utilities Engineer

Shane Hope, Development Services Director

John Dowling, Acting Deputy Fire Marshal

Karl Roth, Police Special Ops (reviews all special event applications)

Rich Lindsay, Parks Maintenance Manager

Rob English, City Engineer

Jennifer Lambert, Engineering Technician

- Park should be a vital part of downtown, not just for particular functions [Shane]
- Drainage issues – 6” below site is a lot of peat. Believe it was cedar mill shaving dump-site. SE corner is the worst; generally poor drainage; 3’ down when digging skate park was gushing with water; believe there may be clay layer below
- Restrooms should be considered
- Track is heavily used; should be something similar; possibly a walking path around perimeter
- Community gardens or lower intensity uses around residences
- Is it possible to have a multi-use portion of the Boys & Girls Club if they rebuild?
- Residents will not like using streets for festivals
- Would be nice to have games, non-traditional, like in Occidental Park
- Visibility, views for residents will be an issue
- Utilities to remain? City wants to put sanitary sewer line through park, ideal corridor aligned with old right-of-way, off of Edmonds (Edmonds & 7th to west and connect to police and fire) 70-80ft from existing stormwater line
- Noise ordinances? Special use for larger events
- There is very little crime in general; few security concerns
- Security fence to remain? Open for discussion. Protection for children needed – 7th Avenue traffic, etc. Fence keeps the balls in
- See (PRO) Parks and Recreation Open Space Plan for other park program and reviews – surveyed every six years
- Dogs allowed? On leash probably best
- Mid-block crossing on 7th? Don’t want to put one at Bell Street; maybe Sprague. New lit crosswalk just put in at new Spray Park
- Issue with people cutting between fire and police buildings to access park. People walk out in front of cars in parking lot. Not much room for a more formal connection. May be best to close off this cut through to force people past 9-11 memorial or other routes. All existing parking is needed. Need access from 2 directions for police and fire.
- How much grading can happen? Option for hilly features? Yes.
- Difficult to bike to and from site due to steep hills in some directions
- Can HWA or someone do core drilling to test soils?